

Incidents of My Experience and Observation in the Late Civil

War.

By R. M. PECK.

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at home awhile I went to Fort Scott, and about a half mile southwest of town, where at home awhile I went to Fort Scott, and he was placed among other smallpox cases, struck Hugh Kirkendall for a job. I took the tent being guarded. But it proved to a job driving a post team for him, until be no smallpox at all, and even with the something better would open up; and as fine opportunity given him by placing him the transportation business remained very between two cases of the disease, he failed dull, I continued driving a post team through the Winter of '62 and '63.

here mention that a Wagon Boss's pay ful occupation, and accordingly one night, was \$65 a month, assistant \$45, and when he thought the "sign was right," he teamster's \$25, rations included.

addition to the garrison and provost-guard where all bushwhackers go. And "Capduties, also did the escorting of forage tain" Price never more gloated over the trains along the Missouri border, and trains that were engaged in hauling supplies to Forts Gibson and Smith in the Indian Nation Value B. S. Hanning was in Indian Nation. Maj. B. S. Henning was in command of the regiment and post of Fort

During the early part of the war the rebels, who had not yet got well acquainted with the Northern soldiers, used to boastfully declare that the Union army was made up of "cowardly Abolitionist Yankees and lop-eared Dutch," and that "one Southern man could whip six of them," and all such stuff. By the close of the war these same fire-eating Southerners had very materially changed their opinions of the fighting qualities of the Northern soldiers, and had had whipped into them a wholesome respect for the "--- Yankees and lop-eared Dutch."

During this Winter ('62 and '63), there was brought into Fort Scott as a prisoner, by some of the soldiers of the 3d Wis. Cav., a rebel bushwhacker, who had been captured by them while on a forag-ing trip over in Missouri. He called him-self "Capt." Price, and his gang had con-ed of about a dozen of those murdermiscreants in the production of which

souri seemed to excel. think this Price was one of the most

omous rebels that I met during the ... While a prisoner he could not ren from abusing and insulting every on man-officer, soldier or citizenwhom he came in contact. And this had been allowed to do with impunity

so long—because he was a helpless pris-oner—that he seemed to think that the nigger-loving Yankees"-as he delighted to call his enemies-were too cowardly to resent his insults. Finally he got so abusive to his guards that the officers of the guard found it necessary to gag him and swing him up by the thumbs, or give him a ducking, occasionally, to

He tauntingly boasted of the number cowardly Yankees" he had killed: and that any good Southern man was a match for six of the "- Yankee Abolitionists;" and how he had delighted to charge in among a lot of the "infernal Lineoln hirelings," and shoot them down like dogs, while they fell on their knees and begged for mercy; and so forth, and so on, ad nauseum. All his talk was upon this style. He seemed to imagine himself hero, while every one else appeared to think he was either a fool or a lunatic.

He was a young man of about 25, and shortly after he was brought in a prisoner, his wife, a giddy, romantic young woman -a fairly good mate for such a brainless braggart-came to Fort Scott, in order to be near him. She was not a prisoner, or put under any restraint of her freedom, but her movements were closely watched, lest she should be sending information to the enemy.

It would have been strange, indeed, if the constant stream of vituperation pour- took great pride in riding her about the ing from the fellow upon his guards, and streets of Fort Scott, giving out-and even all others who in any way sympathized having an item published in the Fort Scott with the Northern cause, had not provoked a feeling of retaliation.

One evening, after dusk, as I was pass ing the guard house, I noticed that in addition to the regular sentry, "No. 1," who was walking his post as usual in front of the guard station, two extra guards were crouching in the dark shadows at either rear corner of the prison, and the officer of the guard, also, stood conveniently near one of them, with his revolver in his hand. All except "No. 1" were still and motionless as statues-evidently waiting, and in tently listening and watching for something to happen. It was easy to conjecture what that something was. Some prisoner was expected to make a break. and these men were ready to drop him.

Without seeming to notice what was going on, I walked on past, into the shadows of the next building—the hospital—and there concealed myself to await results. I was disappointed, however. After a time, as the expected did not seem to occur, the of-

a hole through the wall of the prison room, and they had set a watch for him, and attempt to escape. But he "smelt a rat," and failed to come out of the hole he had

Next day, while I was at the blacksmith shop getting some mules shod, an officer shop and had fetters riveted on his ankles. with a short piece of chain between. All the time this was being done he was putting in the time in his usual way, abusing "- Yankees." I could see from the looks of the Lieutenant and his guards that they would be delighted to get a pretext to kill him, but did not find any justi-

fiable opportunity yet. The soldiers of the garrison had all become familiar with this blowhard bushwhacker, and I think they had all mentally passed sentence of death on him, and were anxiously waiting for some reasonable exme that he would have preferred to let killing him. him remain footloose, so that he would be encouraged to make a break for freedom,

as then the guard would be justified in While the blacksmith was riveting the jewelry on him he was getting off his stereotyped boast of the "- Abolitionists" he had killed; telling how he and his gang would ride around through the neighborhood where they ranged, hunting down Union men; how they would ride up to the houses of such men as they suspected of off to camp, leading the three riderless sympathizing with the Union cause-always after dark, call them to their door

such occasions. I did not blame the soldiers for wanting to kill him. I felt as though I would like how got started in some cumbustible mato do the job myself. It was a safe proph- terial, and the house and outbuildings, ited, and that the soldiers would soon find

some way to "fix" him. It was probable that he greatly exaggerated the number of Union men he had killed, and the number of women and children he had made widows and orphans; and if he and his gang had killed any it

To return to my story. After staying moved to the "pest-house"-a tent located

to take it. He seemed to conclude, however, that this was a good opportunity to get away As I forgot to state it previously, I will and go back to resume his former cheer cut a slit in the back of the tent, crawled out and started. He didn't get far. The

post teamster must be an ex-Wagon Master, or known to be a first-class teamster, to entitle his application for the job to the consideration of the Post Wagon Boss. Our crew of post teamsters during this Winter at Fort Scott was largely composed of ex-Wagon Masters in waiting for

trains. As a natural consequence, post teamsters hold thmeselves as ranking several notches above the common "mule skinners" of the road. Post mules are always well and regutrains is neither large enough or strong of liquor, wine or beer, and overcomes that dignity to load or unload his wagon-he and the extraordinary effect of Swamptail of soldiers, or prisoners out of the distressing cases. If you need a medicine guard house, under guard, is furnished. Early in the Spring of '63 my old friend,

mules that could be selected from among

team. After I had informed him that I At this time Fort Scott was garrisoned by the 3d Wis. Cav., which regiment, in had been driving a post team at Scott all Dr. Kilmer & Co., Binghamton, N. Y. seem to be much hope, he said:
"Well, Peck, if this is the best these

Capt. "Shorty," came to Fort Scott, en

route to Fort Gibson, Cherokee Nation,

and was surprised to find me driving a



"THE GERMAN QUICKLY SLIPPED BEHIND THE DOOR."

and orphans.

THE KILLING OF BRICE MAYFIELD. One day a company of 3d Wis. Cav., on returning from a foraging trip down in Missouri, came into Fort Scott accompanied by Bill Tuft, Gen. Blunt's Chief of Scouts, who was riding a fine blooded, flea-bitten gray mare, that had formerly been owned and ridden by Brice Mayfield, a notorious rebel bushwhacker, who had been killed on this trip, in a desperate rough-and-tumble fight, by a German soldier of the 3d Wis. Cav. Tuft had bought the mare for a trifle from the soldier, who did not realize her value; and with that immaculate gall for which he was famous, Monitor that he had acquired the fine mare by killing Brice Mayfield.

The facts concerning the killing of Mayare about as follows:

The company of 3d Wis. Cav., while fence and gone inside to try to buy some butter. The women of the house being pretending to send a little girl after the a gunnysack locked up with a hame desired butter to a neighbor's house near string), I joined Jeff Anthony's camp to by, where they knew that Mayfield and another rebel were in hiding; but in reality bushwhackers of the presence at the other house of the two soldiers.

While our two troopers were sitting in the house waiting for the girl's return, and ficer and two extra guards withdrew, and the women by pleasant conversation were I learned subsequently that the guards had discovered that "Capt." Price had dug front of the house, and was astonished to of using "fifth chain" and "spreaders," the notice two more horses hitched to the fence, near his and his comrade's, and at tried to arrange things encouraging and the same moment he saw two men in but-favorable, hoping that he would make an ternut clothes (a sure sign of a rebel) approaching the door.

Instantly comprehending the situation, he German soldier, who was a powerful, oig fellow, informed his comrade, and drawing their revolvers they both sprang replace any wheel that gets broken in and file of guards brought Price to the to the door, opened it quickly and fired, at the same instant receiving the fire of the rebels. At the first shots the German's comrade fell dead, and Mayfield's companion was also killed.

As Mayfield made a rush to come in the German quickly stepped behind the door, both firing at the same time, the soldier hitting the rebel, but not wounding trains of 25 teams each, besides our bathim seriously, while Mayfield's ball struck the door and glanced off. The bushwhacker was also a strong, active man, and as he sprang into the house they grappled, each trying to wrench the other's strung out on a muddy road it took up pistol from him, and in the struggle they several miles. We were escorted by sevfell to the floor, where, after several mocuse to put it in execution. The com- ments of desperate strife, the Dutchman manding officer had ordered the fetters put succeeded in disengaging his pistol, placed from Fort Gibson. Besides our advance on him, but the officer of the guard told the muzzle to the rebel's head and fired and rear-guard of a company each, the

> The women and children had fled out of the back door at the first shot, and on disengaging himself from the dead rebel and ising, the plucky Dutchman found he was he sole surviving tenant of the house. bring other rebels to take him in, he hastily examined his late comrade, and finding him dead, and then making sure that the two rebels were safely "converted," he stripped each of his belt and pistol, hung

A detachment of soldiers was immeand shoot them down; and what sweet mu- diately sent out from our men's camp to sic it was to his ears, he declared, to hear bring in and bury the body of the brave the screams of the women and children on German's comrade, and while they were at the house—the women and children being still absent-a spark of fire some

and being a good judge of a horse, he saw that the flea-bitten gray mare was an extraordinarily fine animal, and succeeded in buying her from the soldier before the man had found out her good points.

being timbered and infested by bushwackers, but as there is generally contained the contained that the flea-bitten gray mare was an extraordinarily fine animal, and succeeded in buying her from the soldier before the man had found out her good points.

Besolved, That we, the members of Custer Post, No. 1, Department of Colorado and Wyoming, G. A. R., most earnestly the trains often take it in preference to the old "military road"—the one I traveled general and the Congression of the contained to the property of was probably done in the usual cowardly man had found out her good points.

And that is how Bill Tuft killed Brice

children whom he had rendered widows | are fixed there for Wagon Masters, but I'll help you to get a place somehow. I think we can surely find something for has a tendency to keep them from taking you down there better than driving a team. I have just been appointed Lieutenant-Colonel to Gibson of the 2d Indian Regiment, and am ordered to Gibson to take command of it, Col. Ritchie being on detached service in Kansas. There will be a large brigade train going down under command of Brigade Wagon Master George Magee. You see him and arrange to drive a team down there, or to work your way through in some capacity, and we'll see what we can do for you after we get

Taking Col. Shorty's advice, I immediately notified Billy Armstrong, our Post Wagon Boss, to get another man in my place, got my "time" from him, went to the officer and drew my pay, sent the money to my wife in Leavenworth, and hunted up George Magee, the Brigade Wagon Master. He sent me to Wagon field, which I heard from one of the sol-diers, as near as I can remember them, teamsters to take a lot of light battery teams and caissons to Fort Gibson with on a foraging expedition, had camped being sent there to complete the fitting near Neosho, Mo., and a German trooper, out of a field battery, the guns and limbeing sent there to complete the fitting accompanied by a comrade, started out on bers of which had lately been captured their horses to do a little scouting on their from the rebels by Capt. Henry Hopkins's own account. They had ridden up to a company of the 2d Kan. Cav., which comfarm house, hitched their horses to the pany was now to be turned into a light

Taking my roll of blankets and "Sararebels, detained and delayed the soldiers by toga" (a mule skinner's trunk is generally play artilleryman for a short time. We had six caissons and one "battery wagon," the errand of the girl was to inform the carrying forage, tools, etc. Each caisson and the tool wagon is drawn by six horses. To each span of horses there is a driver who rides his near horse, designated as wheel, swing and lead drivers. I was assigned as a lead driver.

> traces of the swing horses are hooked into the harness of the wheelers, and the traces are the same size and interchangeable, and each caisson carries an extra wheel, on a fixed spindle, elevated a little in rear of the hinder box and wheels, to be used to

We had two six-mule teams; one for mess wagon, to carry our tents, blankets, rations, mess kits, etc., and one empty wagon and team for foraging. We started out of Fort Scott in a wet, muddy time, and had heavy roads nearly all the way. Magee's brigade train consisted of five tery outfit; and in addition to these we were accompanied by a large number of two and four-horse teams hauling goods for sutlers. When this long train was eral companies of 3d Wis. Cav. and about 500 Indians (some mounted, some afoot) rest of the escort is marched along on the flanks (always giving up the road to the teams), and strung out so as best to guard the train from attacks. Each team, besides its load of Commissary or Quartermaster's stores, carries its grain for the trip-sacked corn and oats. In addition to this we have one entire train loaded with sacked corn and oats, from which we draw our rations of grain each day, or as needed, for the battery horses; but for "roughness" (hay, corn-fodder, or straw) we have to depend on foraging along the line of travel, and for that reason Magee chose to travel down the old "line road," as it was called, running near the boundary line that separates the State (Missouri) and Nation,

passing through the towns of Lamar, Carthage, Neosho, and Pineville, Mo., and at Maysville, Ark., we turned westward prove the motive which induced the new through the Nation, by way of Tahlequah, pension ruling by Commissioner Ware, we the capital of the Cherokee Nation, to Fort yet feel that our rights should endure, and Gibson. This route is longer and also that they ought to be made secure by Con-Tuft was in the soldiers' camp when the more dangerous, on account of the country gressional enactment: Therefore, be it

HOW TO FIND OUT.

all the vast numbers of such animals passing through the hands of the Post Fill a bottle or common glass with your water and let it stand twenty-four hours; Quartermaster, and were therefore always a sediment of settling indicates an un-healthy condition of the kidneys; if it stains the linen it is evidence of kidney trouble; too frequent desire to pass it, or pain in the back is also convincing proof A man who aspired to the position of that the kidneys and bladder are out of

What To Do. There is comfort in the knowledge so often expressed that Dr. Kilmer's Swamp-Root, the great kidney remedy, fulfills every wish in curing rheumatism, pain in larly fed, well groomed and well stabled, the back, kidneys, liver, bladder and every and consequently look sleek and fat. Their part of the uninary passage. It corrects harness is made especially for them, as inability to hold water and scalding pain the contract harness used in the ordinary in passing it or bad effects following use enough. A post teamster would never unpleasant necessity of being compelled to think of driving his team faster than a go often during the day, and to get up slow walk, and considers it beneath his many times during the night. The mild simply drives the team and takes care of Root is soon realized. It stands the highit. For the loading and unloading a de- est for its wonderful cures of the most you should have the best. Sold by druggists in fifty-cent and one-dollar sizes. You may have a sample bottle of Swamp-Root, the great kidney remedy. and a book that tells all about it, both sent absolutely free by mail. Address, When writing be sure to mention that you read this generous offer in the Washington National Tribune. Don't make any mistake, but remember the name, Swamp-Root, Dr. Kilmer's Swamp-Root, and the address, Binghamton, N. Y., on every bot-

> farms on either flank, within two or three miles of the road, as we travel along. The owners of the stuff found are not asked whether they wish to sell, or what price they ask for it. When anything is found the commander of the foraging party has it loaded into the wagons without ceremony. He then writes out a receipt and hands to the owner, giving the amount (guessed at) of stuff he has taken. The owner can present this receipt at the Quartermaster's office in Fort Scott, and if he can prove by responsible loyal citizens that he is, and has been, a loyal citizen of the United States, he gets pay at a fair (generally liberal) price. If he can't establish his loyalty, he gets nothing.

As soon as the forage wagons succeed in getting loads they make for the train, which is traveling slowly along the road, unload into the other wagons, and strike out for more. These foragers do an excellent service also as scouts and flankers. If there are any rebels, or signs of them, in their range they will find it out, though the getting of this information frequently costs the lives of a few soldiers or teamsters; still, the risk is seldom seriously considered-it's in their line. The foragers are frequently attacked by bushwhackers, but f they succeed in killing as many of the rebels as they lose of their men, and still get away with the forage. they consider themselves that much ahead of the game.

Sometimes when such attacks are made it or near a house a detail from the rain's escort goes back and utterly destroys the place, burning buildings and everything on the justification that the people of such house are harboring bushwhackers! In this way families are often bereft of home and everything they have in a very short time, but they are usually the families of friends and aiders of our bushwhackers, and I although, to one who is unaccustomed to the hardships of war, this would seem fills with signal ability. barbarous, cruelty inflicted on possibly inlocent parites, yet the usage of war jus-

advantage of the farm buildings to am-

A soldier of one of our foraging parties was badly wounded in a skirmish with bushwhackers near a farm house. He was left at the house while the party came to the train to get medical aid for him and an ambulance to haul him to our camp. When they went back after him they found that he had again been shot and stabbed in a most cowardly and inhuman manner by some of the bushwhackers, who had returned to the house while he was lying then thrown him out in a hog lot for the hogs to devour.

He was not yet dead, however, when the relief party reached him, and fortunately the hogs had not yet found him, and he lived long enough to tell his comrades how the women of the house had continually reviled and cursed him after his party had left, and how they had sent for the guerrillas and urged them to finish him and throw his body to the hogs. Those she-rebels were the most ven-

omous kind. It was with difficulty that the officer in charge of the relief party restrained his men from doing these women bodily harm: for many of them wanted to tie the she-devils to a tree and give them a severe horse-whipping. When prevailed on to forego this satisfaction, they compromised by striking a match in the house and sticking it "where it would do the most good," as one of them said, and in a few minutes the house, outbuildings and contents were in flames. The soldiers refused to let the women and children remove a thing from the house; they had to W. D. SMITH. stand and see all they had consumed. Can any one say they did not deserve all this Philadelphia, Harrisburg and Pittsburg punishment, and more too?

skipped out on the reappearance of our by James H. Childs, who was killed at men, and did not again dare show themselves, for fear our soldiers would vent their fury on them.

(To be continued.)

What! Pension Rebels?

place myself on record as one who battle, and 260 died of disease, accident, reside in Dixie land—and from other ar- etc.—EDITOR NATIONAL TRIBUNE.] ticles—a comrade would suppose those fellows had become pretty well galvanized with a rebel Southern sentiment. Now, I wish to place myself on record as one who is strictly opposed to such sentiments as were expressed by Scott Loveless, Co. I, 10th U. S. Cav. Why not honor and decorate the grave of Judas, who betrayed the Savior? Just as much loyalty to such a traitor the absurd and outrageous slush of giving pensions to traitors who did all they could to destroy the Union. It is all nonsense, and any Representative or Senator from the loyal North who would vote for such a measure would lose his political scalp the next election day. Say, Comrade Loveless, just consider the action of the Congressmen from the rebel Department Commanders. Jan. 1, 1904, States! Every bill passed for the benefit of the Union soldier is opposed by the Solid South, and must be passed over their obstructions to But aside from this, is it by muster 59, from dropped 25; a total of ner was shaken to the breeze, with marin harmons, with true levelty to place 98. During that time there was lost by tial airs, an inspiring enthusiasm was in harmony: with true loyalty to place those rebels on the pension roll of honor? It would be a horrible act. Just think of scoundrels, imps of hell, who inflicted tor- so far as is known is the largest in the ture and death upon men because they were loyal-who starved our comradespension those fiends? Never! When the time comes that a rebel is placed on the pension roll, I trust I will be in glory.-James R. CLERIHAM Con. C, 6th Ill. Cav., Girard, Kans. g'i 1 For Service and Priconer-of-War Pensions.

Whereas, while we appreciate and apold "military road"—the one I traveled to Flat Rock and back last Summer. general, and the Congressmen from Colorado and Wyoming in particular, shall steadfastly urge the passage of these two bushwhacker style: first persuading their victims to surrender their arms under promise that they "should be respected as prisoners of war," and then brutally murdering them as soon as they were disarmed and helpless.

I afterwards passed by the ruins of the house where Mayfield was killed, which was near the bank of Shoal Creek, a little was near the bank of Shoal Creek, a little way north of the town of Neosho, Mo.

Price had taken the smallpox, and he was accordingly relieved of the fetters, and re
And that is how Bill Tuft killed Brice Mayfield Brice Mayfield Brice Brice Broading Broa

SENIOR VICE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF The Department of Maryland Presents the Name of Comrade John R. King. Headquarters Department of Maryland G. A. R.

Baltimore, Md., July 11, 1904. At a meeting of the Department of Maryland, Grand Army of the Republic, it was unanimously resolved to present the name of Past Department Commander Comrade John R. King to the 38th National Encampment of the Order, and urge his election to the office of Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief.

JAMES CAMPBELL,

Department Commander. Official-John A. Thompson, A. A. G. Comrade John R. King was born in Maryland. At the age of 17 years he enlisted in the 6th Md. (his older brother



Past Commander, Department of Maryland.

ment, took an active part in the organiza-1900 of being unanimously elected Comor his widow in distress.

Commission to collect and care for the ride on a fine electric car line. Maryland Battle Flags, and also chosen by to erect a monument at Orchard Knob, Let a comrade's honorable discharge Maryland troops.

President Roosevelt appointed Comrade E, 2d Battalion, 18th U. S. King United States Pension Agent at Washington, D. C., which office he now The Department of Maryland, in behalf of the members of the Order residing south of Mason and Dixon's Line, asks the 38th

National Encampment to recognize and encourage them by the election of Comrade King to the office of Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief. Headquarters Department of Maryland in Boston will be at the Beacon House, corner Beacon and Somerset Street.

Tribute to Si and Shorty.

Hotel.

Comrade J. F. Spalding, 92d Ill., writes or the Byron (Ill.) Record a very good there wounded and helpless; and they had story of the fight of Kilpatrick's Cavalry at Aiken, S. C., the brunt of which fell upon his regiment, and says: "The best description of this fight that I ever saw was once printed in The Na-

tional Tribune in a continued story called Si and Shorty. The author of the article must have been there or he had heard the story well told. About the only mistake in the story is where he says Col. Van Buskirk gave Si Klegg a Spencer rifle. I know the Colonel never gave any one a Spencer rifle; it was too hard to keep them ourselves. "There is much truth in the remark of

Shorty's 'For a good, quiet time stay with the infantry,' but I think that there was a squad of infantry with us that day, as there was most every day during the whole march, and they were always good men, ready to take a hand in any trouble we might get into."

EDITOR NATIONAL TRIBUNE: Please give

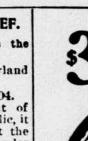
me a short history of the 4th Pa. Cav .from August to October, 1861, with David The cowardly bushwhackers had Campbell as Colonel. He was succeeded Antietam, and he by James K. Kerr, who resigned, and was succeeded by George H. the damp, cold ground, with no shelter, fre-Covode, who was killed at St. Mary's Church. Samuel B. M. Young, at present Lieutenant-General, U. S. A., was Colonel of the regiment at the time it was mus-EDITOR NATIONAL TRIBUNE: I wish to tered out, July 1, 1865. It lost 98 men in

A Notable Grand Army Post. Geo. H. Ward Post, 10, Department of Massachusetts, is located in Worcester, and is the only Post in the city. It was chartered Aug. 13, 1867, and has been remarkably successful from the beginning. Its relief work has been methodical and careful and has been done by a Board of Trustees, the Post having no knowledge of the persons helped, the amounts expended only being reported. In this way \$65,000 have been expended, and there is now in the Relief Fund over \$6,000. From the Post one Commander-in-Chief, Gen. Charles Devens, has been taken and three the membership was 680. During the six months ending June 30 there was added from the suspended list 6, by transfer 8, death 19, by transfer 3, a total of 22, leav- kindled and loud and long was the aping the membership 756, which is 36 more plause of the multitude. As our steps Department Convention. One at Red those rebel prisons-old Wirz-and other than any other Post in Massachusetts, and United States. Who Were the Girls ?

A comrade of the Sixth Corps wants to know if there is any way of getting the names of the girls who sang on the street of Gettysburg, as the Sixth Corps came in battle.

> 77 19 HOOd's

Sarsaparilla is unquestionably the greatest blood and



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This RAILROAD WATCH for.\$3.75

and it is yours. A handsome double breasted chain and charm sent free with each watch. Order to-day as this advertisement will positively not appear again. Address. R.E. CHALMERS & CO., 356 Dearborn St., CHICAGO.

A Western Sole Subscriber.

EDITOR NATIONAL TRIBUNE: In your

ssue of Dec. 31, is a letter headed: "A

Sole Subscriber." Well, here is another. Like the widow of Corp'l Sharp, of New Milford, Conn., I get my paper in a single wrapper. It is true that we have a very small Post here, only some 20 members: but none seems to take The National Tribune, the paper that is doing so much for the old soldier. I have taken The National Tribune a great many years, and anxiously look for it every week. My wife (who died a year ago last July), used to call it my Bible. I read everything in it. I take several other papers, but I think the most of The National Tribune. If ever forced to take but one paper, it will be The National Tribune. I agree with Mrs. Sharp in every word after every large and the severy word after every large and the severy word after every large and the severy large and the severy word after every large and the severy n every word she says. Our numbers are so rapidly diminishing that we should cling together, the same as of old. shoulder to shoulder, and help each other in the fight for our rights. The National Tribune has done more for us than any other paper has, and we should stand by it. tempt against Fort Hascall, the work next I saw in your issue of Dec. 10, a letter on the left of Fort Stedman. They could, from Lieut. O. E. Davis, of Alton, Iowa, however, make no impression on this; and wanting to know why some of the Regulars no sooner had they rallied on Fort Sted-Past Commander, Department of Maryland.
having preceded him one year), and with his regiment followed the fortunes of the Company—E, 2d Batalion, 18th U. S. I Third and Sixth Corps in the campaigns am glad to know he is still alive. I agree Corps brought forward to meet the emerof the Army of the Potomac to the close of the war. He was a prisoner of war six while in the Fourteenth Corps! Old Pap Hartranft's Division; and it now needed months, and was three times wounded in battle, being disabled for life.

Comrade King, immediately after the war, in the face of a hostile local senti
Wall and the fourcement corps. Old rap

Thomas was one of the best that ever commanded soldiers. I think that the Stone River fight was quite a skirmish. Stone River fight was quite a skirmish. The life is the determine the Confederates to recommanded soldiers. I think that the life it had been to advance, for the lines of retreat were so covered by the cross-fire of the life in the manning for duty 22 commission. 1862, in the morning for duty 32 commis- artillery directed from all the adjacent tion of the "Boys in Blue," which was sioned officers and 603 enlisted men; the subsequently merged into the Grand Army total loss was 371. This is from official of the Republic, of which he was one of the earliest members, being Past Commander of old Dittman Post, No. 1; after- have some more figures I could give of wards becoming a member of Wilson Post, No. 1, where he still holds his membership, at Regular Brigade Headquarters as a filling various of the still holds his membership, mounted orderly; afterwards was a look No. 1, where he still holds his membership, filling various offices thereunder, until he was accorded the unusual compliment in 1900 of being unanimously elected Com-1900 of being unanimously elected Commander of the Department of Maryland.

Comrade King is one of the best-known members of the Order in Maryland, ever members of the Order in Maryland, ever from many old comrades and from several ready to lend a helping hand to a comrade of the widows. I try to answer all of them, and should be glad to hear from Lieut. O. He has been honored by the Governor of E. Davis. I am now on a berry ranch in the State by appointment as one of the Arvada, a suburb of Denver, 30 minutes

I wish The National Tribune success in the Legislature as one of the Commission pushing the \$12 service pension bill through. Chattanooga, to commemorate the valor of the one and all the voucher required; and after his death let his widow receive the On the death of Comrade S. L. Wilson, same amount.—GILBERT H. GRAHAM, Co.

As to Engineers and Others.

EDITOR NATIONAL TRIBUNE: Railway and Locomotive Engineering, issue of May, page 213, contains the following: "A bill has been introduced in Congress by Representative Wiley, of New Jersey, to make during the civil war eligible to receive pen-sions. We believe that the pension bus-felt that arm of strength, so long obedithousands of people are enjoying the Na- tions of his spirit. The Headquarters Grand Army Club of tion's bounty for war services who never Maryland will be at the United States ran any personal jeopardy or passed through any hardships in the services of the country; but if any extension of the pension list is going to be made the locomotive engineer ought certainly to receive consideration. Taking them as individuals the men who ran locomotives for military purposes performed much more valuable services to the country than did any single ombatant, and they incurred even more danger than the average soldier, besides often enduring intense hardship; and they were always, like officers on duty, burdened with responsibilities that never touched the ordinary soldier. There would be no difficulty in making out a good case for war time locomotive engineers receiving pensions so long as pensions are in order.

Now wouldn't that jar you! The author of the above must have had a very puny idea of the dangers, privations and sufferings of the average soldier! If there are any living who suffered injury while running an engine in military employment, heartily give him a pension. I do not be lieve that the pension business has been overdone, or that "thousands are enjoying the Nation's bounty for war services, who never ran any personal jeopardy." Nor was the engineer's danger greater than that of the soldier charging a line of works, where, under the fire from the guns of the foe a whole battalion frequently went

lown at one discharge. The privations and hardships of the wartime engineers are not to be compared to those suffered by the privates in the ranks, who answered their country's call and for \$13 a month marched for days and weeks, with feet blistered and bleeding, lying on quently far from their base of supplies, and ing prison pens of the South, there to suffer all the torments of the damned. Yes, thank God, pensions are in order. And may it be ever thus, as long as there is a man left who has fought for the glo-

rious banner, under which we enjoy our life and liberty.—F. P. MARVIN, Mich.

Our Flag at the Fair.

EDITOR NATIONAL TRIBUNE: At my recent visit at St. Louis I had the pleasure of witnessing the Philippine Exhibition at the Exposition. Of all the hours spent in those spacious grounds, none was more pleasing or wonder-awakening. Our generous Government has indeed wrought great changes in their behalf, and very impressive are the results as there displayed. Their exhibit in the Educational Department is very remarkable—so forcibly in contrast with their rude tribal conditions that are there portrayed in many weird phases.

When, after the fine military drill of those erect sturdy fellows in Uncle Sam's bright uniforms, our dear old banwere turned away tender were the memories of the brave ones who had given their precions lives for the preservation of the dear old Flag of the Free.—HATTIE by Department President Martha J. B. SHARKLEY, Oakland, Cal.

A Magnificent Tribute.

William T. Sherman Corps, W. R. C. has just dedicated a magnificent memorial from its 35-mile march to take part in the to the "Unknown dead" in Evergreen Cemetery at Bloomington, Ill. It is a nine piece of granite, artistically decorated, and is intended to commemorate the unknown soldiers who fell in defense of their country during the war of the rebellion. It is said to be one of the finest monuments now in the State, and cost over \$1,000. The many raised entirely by the women etery at Bloomington, Ill. It is a fine money was raised entirely by the women of William T. Sherman Corps.

Flag Presentation to Post.

liver medicine known. It positively and permanently cures every humor, from Pimples to Scrofula. It is the Best Blood Medicine.

Flag Presentation to Post.

On Memorial Day E. D. Johnson Post, 574, Elmira, Mo., was recipient of a Flag presented by Robert E. Johnson and Marian Johnson McAfee, surviving children of Capt. E. D. Johnson, Co. C, 6th Mo. Cav., in whose memory and honor the Post was named. The presentation address was by Past Department Commander John P. Platt; reception and response by Hon. Wm. McKee and Hon. Wm. McKee and Hon. Wm. McKee and Hon. Wm. McKee and Hon. Wm. McAfee.

ARMY OF THE POTOMAC

eedful that the storming-party should be followed up and sustained by a powerful column to pass beyond and seize the commanding crest in rear of the Federal line. Till this was done nothing was gained; for in the system of fortification on which the Federal line was constructed, a partial

break in the line was not an irretrievable

oss-each work being so well commanded

by those on its flanks that to make any

one point tenable by an enemy every thing

on its right and left must be cleared.

dereliction of duty on the part of the supporting columns; for Gordon's attack was works that the Confederates found themselves corralled in the narrow space berather than brave the deadly perils of the

rain of fire. The primal stroke had, indeed, been brilliant, but not being pushed to a conclusion, it left no solid advantage to the enemy, while it entailed a loss that could be ill afforded by Lee. This embraced not alone the captures above noted, but a heavy sacrifice in killed and woundedprobably not less than 2,500, which was the aggregate of the Union casualties.

Nor was this affair unaccompanied by some positive military advantages to the Union side. Employing that manuver which in fencing is known as the riposte or parry and thrust, Gen. Meade threw forward the whole line of the Sixth and Second Corps, which were to the left of the Ninth, and the troops succeeded in wresting from the Confederates their strongly-intrenched picket-line, which gave round that was of value in the subsequent assaults.

Admirably as Lee's plan was laid, admirably as it was adapted to effect the desired end of relieving the pressure upon his right, the failure of the execution was most signal. This is easy to account for. The Army of Northern Virginia was no longer capable of the efforts required in men who served as locomotive engineers carrying out such an enterprise, and it iness has been greatly overdone, and that ent to his will, fail now to follow the mo-

(To be continued.)

Cards of Invitation.

Instead of the usual circular letter or formal invitation, this is the method adopted by comrades of Humansville, Mo. "Are you coming to the 17th Annual Reunion of the Pomme de Terre District Association, Veterans 1861-1865? Camp Lyon, Humansville, Mo., Aug. 23-27. Five days of camp life. Five days of genuine

delight." It is printed in black letter on tinted cards, with rounded corners, and is mailed to comrades and other desirables. It ought to be "a bringer." Comrade A. B. Prock appears to be the individual responsible for this innovation. It is probable that somebody will now issue cards of "detail for duty" or notice of "drafted for serv-

Reunion at Plymouth.

Nearly 600 visitors of the G. A. R. and the Relief Corps attended the Reunion of the two orders at Plymouth, Mass., July 22. Junior Vice Department Commander Payson Bradley, of Boston, gave the bugle calls on a bugle he carried through the battle of the Wilderness. Comrade S. Miller Briggs, of Hanson, played again tunes he used to play in camp and in quarters, on a violin that he carried with him through the war. There were numerous excellent addresses, and the Reunion added to the working capacity and strength and to the mutual love of the two

Department of New York.

organizations.

Commander Henry N. Berhaus, Depart-ment of New York, has issued General little or no rations to be had; some enter- Orders 1, 2, 3, in which he announces the results of the 38th Encampment, held at Rochester, June 14-16. The officers elected

> Department Commander, Henry N. Berhaus, Syracuse; S. V. C., W. Charles Smith, Elmira; J. V. C., L. L. Hauchett, Jamestown; Medical Director, Peter D. Leys, M. D., Rosslyn; Chap., Rev. Jas. A. Tappan, Brooklyn. The staff appointments made are: A. A

> G., Wm. Sears, Syracuse; A. Q. M. G., H. S. Redman, Rochester; Judge Advocate, H. D. Ellsworth, Canton; Chief Mustering Officer, Jas. A. Taggart, Buffalo; Inspector, M. J. Cummings, Brooklyn; Senior Aid-de-Camp, R. S. Heilferty, New

Successfully Busy in California. EDITOR NATIONAL TRIBUNE: Through the energy and devotion of time and means by our Department President, Mart Herrick, a new enthusiasm has been t for the fund for a home for veteran their wives. We hope to ere long so

site secured and buildings in course of As evidence of increasing interest i Order, we have the pleasure of rep the organization of three Circles sine by our National President, B. S. B.

Corresponding Secretary, Oakland, C Died in June in Illinois Home. EDITOR NATIONAL TRIBUNE: Follows

list of inmates of Illinois Soldiers and Sailors' Home, who died in June: Abram Terwilliger, B, 49th Ill.

Reunion of the 1 7th Ohio.

The 107th Ohio held its Annual Reunion at Navarre, O., July 2. The follow-